

## THE GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21.

## A POINT FOR THE CONVENTION.

The chief feature of the democratic platform is the tariff question—a question which it successfully straddles as it did in 1884. It has been announced in the national republican convention already, that the distinguishing feature of the platform must be the tariff plank which must be good and strong. This is all very true. If we are to have the tariff question in the coming campaign, let us have it all the time, and let the people decide whether protection to American industries shall be voted up or voted down.

But there is another question which is in importance fast crowding on the heels of home protection, and that is the liquor question. The greatest evil to the home in this country is the whisky power. When one pauses for a moment and considers that the drinking people of the United States spend close on to one billion dollars a year for liquors, and that much of that vast amount comes out of the pockets of the poor people, he will naturally think that the time has come when there should be some powerful and earnest work done for temperance; and the thought will very properly go out to the national republican convention, and there will be hope that it may do something to help on the cause. It is not a political question, to be sure, but the evils of intemperance have become such a curse, that it becomes very proper for such a distinguished body of representative men—representing the best scholarship, the highest intelligence, and the advancing Christianity of this nation—to give encouragement to a cause so crowded with honor as that of holding in check or abolishing the rum traffic. It can show its sympathy for the movement, and strengthen the cause by endorsing any practical method by which the whisky influence, with all its train of evils, can be driven from our politics and society.

There is a growing sentiment that the silicon must go; and there are a great many enthusiastic temperance men who have gone from the republican party to the third party, simply because they were the sallow to go. Here is the vote of New York, for instance, for the past five years:

PROHIBITION VOTE

IN 1883..... 18,462

IN 1884..... 25,011

IN 1885..... 27,414

IN 1886..... 41,850

IN 1887..... 47,414

IN 1888..... 52,001

IN 1889..... 57,414

IN 1890..... 61,850

IN 1891..... 67,414

IN 1892..... 72,001

IN 1893..... 77,414

IN 1894..... 82,001

IN 1895..... 87,414

IN 1897..... 97,414

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